City of Boston

IN

CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILLORS CHARLES C. YANCEY AND CHUCK TURNER

SAINT LUCIA INDEPENDENCE

WHEREAS: Saint Lucia was first settled by Arawak Indians around 200 A.D; and

WHEREAS: Caribs or the Kalinago people migrated from the southern West Indies and the northern coast of South America and gradually replaced Arawaks during the period from 800 to 1000 A.D; and

WHEREAS: Early Amerindian cultures called the island *Iouanalao* and later *Hewanorra*, meaning *Island of the Iguanas*; and

WHEREAS: The island was contested between England and France throughout the 17th and early 18th centuries (changing possession 14 times); and

WHEREAS: Saint Lucia became a British territory in 1814 and one of the Windward Islands in 1871; and

WHEREAS: Saint Lucia remained an agricultural island, dedicated to producing tropical commodity crops, even after the abolition of slavery on its plantations in 1834; and

WHEREAS: Self-government in Saint Lucia was granted in 1967 and full independence was granted on Feb. 22, 1979; and

WHEREAS: Saint Lucia's population is 160,267. Approximately 85 percent of all St. Lucians are of pure African decent. There is a small percentage of mixed African, British, French, East Indian, and Carib ancestry, and a pure group from East Indian and European decent; and

WHEREAS: Saint Lucia's government, a parliamentary democracy and a Commonwealth realm, is headed by Prime Minister Stephenson King; and

WHEREAS: Saint Lucia continues to attract foreign business and investment, especially in its offshore banking and tourism industries; Be It Therefore

RESOLVED: That the Boston City Council, in meeting assembled, congratulates the nation of Saint Lucia on its 31st Anniversary of full independence from the United Kingdom; and Be it Further

RESOLVED: That the Boston City Council, in meeting assembled, declares Monday, February 22, 2010 as Saint Lucia Independence Day in the City of Boston.

By: _____

President of the City Council

Attest: _____

Clerk of the City of Boston

Offered by: _____

Date: _____ February 24, 2010

X-4600